

The wretched Augereau we may leave out of account. At first destined by Napoleon for punishment, he soon attempted to atone for his base conduct to the Emperor in 1814 by a violent proclamation against the Bourbons. From that moment he was held in just contempt by both parties, only appearing again as one of the members of this military court who, with fatal good will, accepted the ill-adviced objection of Ney against their competence. He died in 1815, bitterly regretting, it is said, his vote at the trial of Ney: he had much to regret.

Death had removed some, of the most brilliant of the list of Marshals. The rough, gallant, well-tried Lannes had died from wounds received at Essling in 1806. Bessieres had been killed in 1813, the day before Lutzen. Poniatowski, who had wielded his *baton*, a brief but eventful three days, had been drowned in the retreat from Leipsie. Berthier, the constant companion of Napoleon in Italy, in Egypt, indeed in every campaign from 1797, had abandoned his friend in 1814, and had welcomed the Bourbons with indecent warmth. In 1815 he accompanied the King over the frontier, privately expressing his intention of returning to rejoin Napoleon, who, threatening to strike him off the roll of Marshals, would certainly have welcomed him with only a passing gibe at his appearance alongside the carriage of Louis XVIII. Berthier met his death in a mysterious manner at Bamberg, where he had retired to the lands of his wife's uncle, the King of Bavaria, by throwing himself (or being thrown) from a balcony, a matter to which, we shall again refer when speaking of the death of Marshal Bruno, in whose case, a most determined murder was attempted to be represented as suicide.

At last, in obedience, it is said, to the counsels of his wife, Caroline Bonaparte, had abandoned Napoleon in 1814, foolishly trusting to the promises of Austria that he should retain his Kingdom of Naples. He attacked Russia, and thought he had purchased his safety by his base and foolish ingratitude. When the Congress of Vienna met he soon found that his removal was one of the great aims of France, and neither the solemn treaty with Austria nor the old affection of